

KILLS 3 MEN WITH HATCHET FOR \$100 LOOT

Lone Burglar Hid in Restaurant Cellar Fled After Robbing Safe.

OWNER AND HELP
FOUND DEAD BY WIFE

Peculiar Features of the Crime
Lead Police to Belief
Arrest Is Near.

To effect a robbery which, in the end, netted only \$100, a masked burglar murdered three men with a hatchet early yesterday morning in the cellar of 26 Third Avenue.

Though the slayer escaped, circumstances which the police refuse to detail for publication, oppose his chances of long-continued freedom.

The victims were Otto Zinn, forty-five, who owned and lived above the restaurant at 26 Third Avenue; Roman Held, thirty-eight, of 1663 Avenue A, porter in the restaurant; and Stephen Cumence, twenty-eight, of 1601-2 Eldridge Street, kitchen man in the restaurant.

Zinn bought the restaurant from his former employer, L. Reinken, three years ago. His prosperous business required the services of thirty-five employees. His patrons were drawn almost exclusively from the immediate neighborhood. The majority of them were well known to him and to most of his employees, whose term of service had been remarkably long for a middle-class dining place.

There were few patrons who did not know that the day's receipts were put into a small safe behind the cigar counter.

Cash Kept in Small Safe.

The restaurant was closed at 11:20 o'clock on Sunday night. Zinn and his wife, Emily, were then in their apartment on the second floor, giving up their evening entertainment to a small group of friends. Frederick Tauer, the chef, went to his room on the third floor. Robert Schulz, the cashier, finished his work and locked the cash drawers, which were near the door, and departed for home about the same time that the other employees left the place. The only Zinn workers then remaining were Cumence and Held.

Cumence was in the kitchen, which is in the rear and divided from the dining room by a partition, preparing to bank the fires. Held had piled up the chairs on tables, and was sweeping the walls and was sweeping, a gas burner from four feet halfway back from the sidewalk. There are no shades on the two large windows. The blinds on the two door windows were drawn. The other doors were locked and Zinn had the key.

Inside the store two stairways lead to the basement, whose floor is boarded throughout. One stairway descends from the extreme rear of the kitchen, the other from the north side and close to the front of the store. It is used by patrons going to the washroom.

Slayer Hid in Cellar.

A reasonable assumption is that the murderer—whose action at the time would not have caused even a second glance to be given him—went down the washroom stairs some time before the patrons thinned out and secreted himself. Opportunity for hiding temporarily in the cellar was easy.

Developments show that Held was the first victim. He went downstairs to get a bottle of beer, and was in the cellar at 1 o'clock. He got to the coal bin, which is under the sidewalk. He was probably reaching for the shovel when the blade of a hatchet caught him at the base of the skull. He dropped face forward in the coal bin, which he must have had in the dark, narrow passageway opening at right angles to the coal bin, closed the door on his victim and waited for the next one.

Cumence was the next. Obviously there is nothing to tell what brought him to the cellar. He reached the furnace, ten feet back from the coal bin. Two blows on the back of the skull

from the hatchet dropped him dead by the darkened side of the furnace. That presumably removed all obstacles to the work in prospect. That work was to get the safe into the cellar without carrying it there, for everything in the restaurant could be seen from the street. So the murderer, calling on his memory to tell him the precise position of the safe, stood on the rim of an ash can, beside which Cumence's body lay, and ripped off a section of the embossed sheet metal ceiling about one and one-half feet square. With bit and brace he bored a small hole through the wooden ceiling. Then he realized his error in calculation. He had picked a spot about four feet from the safe.

Safe Rins Downstairs.

He then went up into the restaurant and forced the cash drawers. He got about \$100 in bills and coin. He pushed the heavy, though small, safe to the darkened nook at the head of the washroom stairs and removed the bolts and nuts from the hinges. Then he must have tried to carry the safe down the stairs, but it slipped from his grasp and tumbled down the wooden steps to the cellar, raising a dull series of sounds that awakened Zinn and his wife. The time was then 2:15 o'clock.

"That man Held must be fighting down there," said Zinn, knowing that on Sunday morning the porter had celebrated with a party the christening of his second child. So, anticipating nothing more than the exchange of a few sharp words with Held, Zinn put on a few garments and told his wife he could be right back. She insisted on accompanying him. They reached the sidewalk. Zinn unlocked the restaurant door, told his wife to stay outside, entered, and locked the door on the inside, so she could not follow.

Bloodmarks on the showcase glass and on the drinking glass gave him his first idea of what he had to face. He went into the kitchen and the police theory of this seems good. He took the covers, and then stepped down the rear stairs. Darkness shielded from him the body of Cumence. By the washroom light he could see the safe near the foot of the stairs. Evidently he passed over to it and was starting back toward the rear of the cellar when he met the murderer, who probably had planned to get him in the back. He was killed with two blows of the hatchet on the top of his head.

Wife Calls for Aid.

At the end of twenty anxious minutes Mrs. Zinn aroused Tauer, the chef, who summoned a patrolman. In a few minutes that patrolman's whistle had brought a dozen other policemen. Finding that all three men were dead, the police, aided by a squad of reserves, surrounded the block, which is bounded by Third Avenue, Tenth Street, Fourth Avenue and Eleventh Street.

By footprints in the snow it was seen that after the murderer had left by a door—which is always unlocked—leading from the rear of the kitchen to a wood and canvas enclosed shed he had raised himself to the roof of the shed. Then he dropped to the yard, from which he stepped up one flight of a fire escape on the rear of 91 Tenth Street. From that point he passed to the top of a one-story, narrow extension of 91. This is bordered at the street by a picket fence, easy to scale. And it is easy to drop five feet to the street.

In the restaurant was a short crowsbar. In the cellar were a brace and bit, the blood-stained cleavers and hatchet—the latter brought in by the murderer—and the mask, which had been slipped off still knotted in the string.

Inspector Faurot and Deputy Commissioner Frank B. Lord found plenty of fingerprints to photograph, and these, they think, will land the murderer.

One arrest was made last night. The man was Joseph Greenwald, forty-six, tailor, of 124 Greenwald Street. He was arrested at Sixth Avenue and Third Street. His head was cut. His explanation was that he received the injury from a blow by a man who he did not know to him. He was detained at Police Headquarters.

The arrest of a man, who says he is Edward Wester, twenty-four years old, of 1727 Ninth Street, Berkeley, Cal., was reported by the general manager of the restaurant. Wester was arrested at the restaurant. He was charged with the murder of the three men. The police say his statement that he was treated in the Marine Hospital on Staten Island already has been proved false. The police say the prisoner had \$45.85.

Aerial Tango Looks, 'Oh, So Easy' But Everybody's Not Doing It



Miss Bird Millman, Who Dips and Grapevines Twenty Feet Above Ground, Explains Why Her Dance Will Not Be Feature of One-Step Parties.

Everybody is not doing it.

There is at least one new dance which runs no chance of being popularized to death. Bird Millman, who, like it, from the Barnum & Bailey programme, "the dainty, daring queen of the wire," she calls it the aerial tango, and has not been obliged to seek a counsel to keep it in her own private possession. The Castles will reap no shekels from her invention. If your infant son and daughter start right away they may learn it by the time they are eighteen or twenty. That is the period it took Miss Millman to accomplish it.

"Don't it look easy?" the stout woman in an arena has asked her five-year-old. I have been learning ever since. I'll keep on learning until I get to old to work. There is no end to the possibilities of the wire. I love it, and yet I am afraid of it. It is treacherous, fascinating, almost alive. When you have it under your feet, you feel it is a thinking animal, instead of a strand of steel. And you have no trouble. At other times it twitches and throbs un-

looking. Now they don't speak, for she is hurt at his deception, and Zipp, being a regular "What is it?" has no language in which to start a conversation.

Needle, the magnetic hood, is another one of the company in distress. His special stunt has always been pointing to the north unvaryingly. Yesterday he wandered into the basement and came too near a dynamo. Needle is now magnetized at both ends and is spent last night whirling around like a canine pinwheel. He will be recharged to-day.

meet these obligations.

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Mr. Arnold recommends that Mrs. Hopkins be allowed \$3,000 a year alimony, but it is understood she will ask for \$12,000.

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Cabaret in New Guise.

"Too Much Mustard," a musical revue, was presented at Reisenweber's at midnight. It is a miniature musical comedy, and the latest phase of the cabaret. The entertainment consisted of sixteen numbers, and was presented in two twenty-minute parts. Among the performers were Miss Edna Whistler, Miss Marie Laverne and Sam Ash.

Will Fight Marshall Bill.

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1045 Fifth Avenue, eloped with Miss Vera Lawrence Siegrist about eight years ago. Their baby boy is the heir to \$1,000,000 left to him by Dr. Joseph J. Lawrence, of St. Louis, grandfather of the child's mother.

The report of Mr. Arnold finds that John Randolph Hopkins was guilty at his own home in Atlanta, and testimony was given against him in his employ.

Hopkins, according to the referee, made no efforts to controvert the charges made by his wife, but tried to show, and the referee says with some success, that Mrs. Hopkins was a woman of extravagant taste, whose expenditures brought about a great change in the finances of her husband.

The referee gives it as his opinion that the extravagance of Mrs. Hopkins was "unconscionable," since 1907 having spent or contracted debts for about \$50,000 more than the total income of her husband, and compelling him to dispose of some of his property to

meet these obligations.

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